

THE POCAHONTAS TIMES

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CALVIN W. PRICE, EDITOR.

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On the Huntersville road as you approach Marlinton, the boundary of town is crossed just round the sharp turn of the hill, and before there is any intimation that a town is any where near. The next turn shows a large, twenty acre, unfenced clearing on the prehistoric river terrace, some thing like a hundred feet above the level of Knapps creek. This is called the Hamilton field, and at the time the town was projected was a part of the A. M. McLaughlin farm. The field comes down close to the court house being bounded on that side by a beautiful natural grassy bank. This twenty acres will form the next important annex to the town. It is already encircled on half its boundary by a hard surfaced state highway, in other words, the Huntersville road.

It is in turn bounded by a higher terrace or flat of several hundred acres all of which is in the city limits and it would seem that it was the natural place for the center of the town, but the fact that the

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It is in turn bounded by a higher terrace or flat of several hundred acres all of which is in the city limits and it would seem that it was the natural place for the center of the town, but the fact that the railroad follows the river left it to one side of the court house while the building was done on the other or railroad side. There is another reason too why it was not built upon. It was reserved for the millionaire's row, and in those days when hopes ran high, it was considered to be but a matter of time when there would be a millionaire set in town and so we determined to park them on the beautiful heights on the eastern border of the town. But the millionaire did not materialize. The time came when the height of the average man's ambition was to have a car and a gallon of gasoline and the world was his'n. So it looks now as if the natural growth of the town would reach out and take in the Hamilton field and that it would

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On the terrace next above the Hamilton field is the site of the farm once called the Powell place, now generally referred to as Cemetery Hill. It was the part of the plantation on which my father was born, and he rests within a few steps of his birth place.

The names of these fields are from the men who cleared them. I do not know who Powell was but the Hamilton field was named for William Hamilton who married into the community.

In 1855, while Sam Houston was still the dictator of Texas he moved to central Texas and was sheriff of Blanco county during its most terrible days, when the Comanche Indians went on the war path and carried death and destruction all through that part of Texas.

Sam Houston was born in 1793 in Rockbridge county. Hamilton was born in 1811 and died in Blanco county, Texas, in 1894. Houston died in 1862. But Austin, the capital of

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Sam Houston was born in 1793 in Rockbridge county. Hamilton was born in 1811 and died in Blanco county, Texas, in 1894. Houston died in 1862. But Austin, the capital city, is next to Blanco county and Houston was governor of the state of Texas in 1839, and up to his death, and they must have been together a great deal. Houston was governor when the state seceded and he refused to sign the order, and the secession of the state broke him so that he died. Houston had worked for many years to bring Texas into the Union and he could not survive the action taken to secede.

When the first company was formed for the confederacy at Huntsville, the home of Sam Houston, he was asked to review the troops. This he consented to do. He put on his big blue army uniform. He called an imaginary roll of all those politicians of the vicinity who had favored secession. None answered. Then he called the names of the sons of these men and none answered. Then he called the name of his son Sam Houston, Jr., who had enlisted as a southern soldier with his father's consent. Young Houston answered present. The old war horse said in the most impressive way:

"A striking thing it is that those who are most invincible in time of peace are most invisible in war.

The significance of this utterance

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"A striking thing it is that those who are most invincible in time of peace are most invisible in war.

The significance of this utterance lies in the fact that the seceders did not anticipate that they were bringing on a war. They were relying on their construction of a point of law.

When they put one of the national conventions in Texas this year and Clem Shaver went down there to plow the first furrow and break the ground for the great building that is being constructed there in which the throng is to yip and yelp its tedious way through a kind of a war dance, the minds of the old timers went back to other days when the saying was that nobody went to Texas except for a cause, and they told a tale of the experience meeting in a tavern where the crowd agreed to confess what each had gone to Texas for. One said one thing and one said another and all had sufficient cause to move, until the last man said that the reason he had come was because he had refused to build a church. This caused questions to be asked, and it appeared that in some eastern community they had raised a fund to build a church

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one thing and one said another and all had sufficient cause to move, until the last man said that the reason he had come was because he had refused to build a church. This caused questions to be asked, and it appeared that in some eastern community they had raised a fund to build a church and had made the immigrant the treasurer.

But that is all a figment. A lot of our people with the restless foot went there. My grandfather on my mother's side went there with my grandmother, my mother a baby in the arms, and a negro man. They stayed about a year, and the colored man died. My grandfather sat by his grave all night and the next day started back home. My stepgrandmother married as a widow Big Foot Wallace and he was a great hero. Once when captured by the Mexicans the order was death to one half of the prisoners and liberty to the other half to spread the news of the penalty. It was to be determined by drawing beans from a bag, a black bean, death, white bean, liberty. Big Foot Wallace drew a white bean. One of his comrades who was in a sweat of apprehension begged for it and Wallace gave it to him. Then

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Wallace drew another white bean. In after years he said that he had noticed the difference in the shape of the beans.

William Hamilton was certainly a good citizen and a worthy man. He married Medora Sabina Price, May 14, 1834, on the edge of his clearing, she being my great aunt. They lived in Bath county for a number of years and had seven daughters and three sons. Mrs. Hamilton died in Blanco county in 1882. I am trying to find out about this family. With those ten children there must be a wonderful lot of Texans that date back to the sheriff of Blanco.

It was on Powell Hill that my great grandmother, Margaret Beard Price, lived. I am part Beard for there is, where I get my disposition. She was the widow of Thomas Price, who died in 1823, aged about eighty years. Margaret Beard was from Benicks Valley. She was much younger than her husband who had raised a large family by his first wife, Elizabeth Taylor. At the time of the death of Thomas Price, they lived in Botetourt county.

Thomas Price was one of the five Thomas Prices who fought in the Revolution. He was known as the

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Thomas Price was one of the five Thomas Prices who fought in the Revolution. He was known as the Thomas Price of Botetourt county. This late marriage with Margaret Beard puts me one generation closer to the Revolution than most men of my age, and gives me a great grand father as a soldier in that war.

The record for the nearest to the Revolution is held by Judge Lively, of the Supreme court. His grand father was a soldier of the Revolution. His ancestor was Godrill Lively who was born in 1762. He entered the army from Albermarle county in 1780, and served three campaigns, the last of which was for twenty two months.

He was married in 1794, and Judge Lively's father was born in 1815, and Judge Lively was born in 1864. The Judge's father fell dead of heart dis-

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He was married in 1794, and Judge Lively's father was born in 1815, and Judge Lively was born in 1864. The Judge's father fell dead of heart disease while reading the dispatch that announced the surrender of Lee at Appomattox.

Margaret Beard Price was left with four children, the oldest being my grandfather James A. Price. He married on the Marlins Bottom plantation and brought his mother and two full sisters to live here. A younger brother, Thompson Price died in Botetourt county.

In 1838, Margaret Beard Price decided to settle in the Levels. Her daughter Medora had married William Hamilton and was living at Mountain Grove. Her other daughter Virginia Agnes had married Nathaniel Kelley of Monroe county. There was four children and Nathaniel Kelley died a young man and his widow with the four children came

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Margaret lived at that place seven years and the four Kelley children got the advantage of a splendid school at Hillsboro under the instruction of a Mr. Brown and later Rev. M. D. Dunlap, both noted teachers. My father also attended school at the same time from his grandmother's house. Mrs. Kelley only lived a year.

There were grandchildren to help with the land after the war. They were smart, the best school that Greece had. They were well. They were time, they were themselves at brain fever, they were garet with

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father also attended school at the
same time from his grandmother's
house Mrs Kelley only lived a year
at the Levels and the four children
were thrown on Margaret's hands,
and the rest of her life seems to have
been spent caring for them. She sold
the farm in the Levels in 1845 to
James Lewis for eight hundred dol
lars and moved back to the house on
Powell Hill, where she departed this
life in the spring of 1848, aged about
sixty years.

She made a will that was witnessed
by her brother Josiah Beard and by
Woods Poage. She was concerned
about the schooling of the Kelley
children and mentioned the matter
in the will.

Like the Hamiltons, the Kelleys
scattered out in the wide world.
William Scott Kelley was the oldest.
He was born in 1827, and was eight-
een years old when Margaret died.
He got the gold fever and made it to
California where he stayed a few
years. He was next heard of as one
of the famous sporting fraternity on
the steam boat lines between Cincin
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California where he stayed a few years. He was next heard of as one of the famous sporting fraternity on the steam boat lines between Cincinnati and New Orleans. But he seemed from the first to have charged himself with the support and schooling of his two young sisters. He gave them both a most complete education Catherine was a graduate of Miss Maria Richard's school at the Warm Springs and she married Dr. W. N. Snodgrass and settled in Missouri. And the other sister went to the school taught by the Misses Dangerfield at Hot Springs, Virginia, and married Dr. Charles T. Hart and lived in New York City.

William Scott Kelley turned over a new leaf in the fifties, and graduated in medicine in Cincinnati in 1828, and located in Buchannon county, Missouri. He was a friend of Gen. Sterling Price, and was appointed surgeon general of Price's army and died during the war. Dr. Kelley stood high in the estimation of the people at the date of his death. He left one child a daughter who married Geo. L. Rector of Arkansas and

who was the mother of seven children so Dr. Kelley has many descendants in that state.

Margaret was concerned about Samuel Henry Kelley and provided for his schooling. But in 1848, he too got the gold fever and left for California, and after a considerable period he settled at Los Angeles and was keeping a store there in the year 1861. One night in the year 1861, a band of Mexican bandits attacked the store and the place was defended by the owner, but the store was broken into, Kelley was killed, and the store robbed, and the building burned. We do not know whether he left any descendants or not. But that fight was the forerunner of Hollywood and the western fight pictures.

We hear that Margaret was not popular and that she had a temper and that she could not live with people. But a study of her life leads me to a different conclusion. I think that she was a noble woman. She

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lived in years to a man over sixty years of age, and a man who had had a wonderful war record as an Indian fighter and soldier. He seems to have been constantly on the fighting border for something like thirty years, and you can trace him through the Indian days of the sixties, and at Point Pleasant, in the Virginia militia, and in the Continental army, and at Kings Mountain. He had raised one large family and had a son who was in the 1812 war.

After a few years of life married to a man old enough to be her grandfather she was left with four small children and no means to speak of. There did seem to be some slaves who were kind and loyal and helpful to her. Her oldest son having married into a land rich family here at Marlinton gave her an opportunity to escape from Botetourt county back to the valley in which she was born, and here she saw her daughters happily married. But soon Virginia came home a poor widow with four small children and from that time on Margaret lived for her grandchildren. There were ten of the Hamilton grandchildren, but they were no burden to her, for William Hamilton, the land clearer, was able to look after them. The Kelley children were smart and so she moved to the best school in the valley, the school that Greenbrier county patronized so well. Then in a year after that

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best school in the valley, the school
that Greenbrier county patronized so
well. Then in a year after that
time, Virginia Kelley overworked
herself at the washtub one day, took
brain fever and died, leaving Mar-
garet with her bright grandchildren.

Seven years seems to have been the
period that Margaret lived in the
Levels. Then she came back and
lived three years more on Powell
Hill, on the Huntersville road. But
in that time she had her plantation
in order. She had a black man by
the name of Jerry. William Scott
Kelley pulled out for the setting sun
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feather bed, underbed, and bed cloth-
ing and bed linen. It is apparent
that he had lit out for a place where
there were no feather beds needed or
desired. He was one of the Argo-
nauts for the golden fleece.

She was careful to provide for each
one of her descendants and her will
shows that she was mindful of each
and every one of them. She remem-
bers them all and goes into detail
about her estate. She is careful to
require schooling, and in a few years
the wild brother in the west is send-
ing back great sums of money and
the two girls were being schooled at
the best of schools. Medora Kelley
graduated at Hollins Institute in
1868, and was probably the first wo-
man college graduate of Pocahontas
county.

In the will is set forth almost in
full, Catherine's name, where she is
described as Margaret Catherine
Mary Ann M. Kelley.

At the time of her death, Margaret
had horses, cattle, money, and a best

one she
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A book
Thursday
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book will
to Mrs.
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ten saddle, and another saddle and a
nts clock.

The most illuminating article in
am the loom. The clock, and the loom
for and all its equipment is left to her
too daughter Mrs. Hamilton, as well as a
ali-feather bed.

Margaret lived twenty-five years
and a widow and death and trials and
year tribulations were her portion. But
l, a she had a loom, and according to the
ked way it is referred to in the will, it
ded was in running order at the time of
was her departure. It was in the loom
and that women of that day and time
ding wove and fastened securely all their
ther troubles and worries. Here is what
But Senor Ovid had to say about weaving:

of The piece prepare
fight And order every slender thread with
care;

not The web enwraps the beam, the reed
nper divides,

peo- While through the widening space
is me the shuttle glides,

think Which their swift hands receive, then
She poised with lead

wenty The swinging weight strikes close
are of the inserted thread.

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And the women of that day and time
wove and fastened securely all their
troubles and worries. Here is what
Senor Ovid had to say about weaving:

The piece prepare

And order every slender thread with
care;

The web enwraps the beam, the reed
divides,

While through the widening space
the shuttle glides,

Which their swift hands receive, then
poised with lead

The swinging weight strikes close
the inserted thread.

Ovid wrote that before the birth
of Christ, but he describes the loom
that our mothers used a few short
years ago. But Margaret also be-
longed to the day when they spun the
wool and flax into the yarn that was
used for the loom.

Three yards of fine woolen or linen
cloth was considered a fair days work
for woman, or ten yards of carpet.
For three yards of fine cloth the
shuttle was thrown three thousand
times, the treadle pressed three
thousand times, the batten swung
three thousand times.

It was very soothing to the nerves
and the magnificent women of Amer-
ica are the fruit of the loom. They
come from ancestry to whom weaving

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der for years ago. But Margaret also be-
nd you longed to the day when they spun the
Indian wool and flax into the yarn that was
Point used for the loom.

Three yards of fine woollen or linen
cloth was considered a fair days work
for woman, or ten yards of carpet.
For three yards of fine cloth the
shuttle was thrown three thousand
times, the treadle pressed three
thousand times, the batten swung
three thousand times.

It was very soothing to the nerves
and the magnificent women of Amer-
ica are the fruit of the loom. They
come from ancestry to whom weaving
was as soothing to the nerves as
honey to the bee. We may have to
get back to some good healthful rec-
reation like that.

This is a section devoted to the
memory of a good woman who had
very little fun but who carried on to
the end

Notice of Sale of School

Property

Notice is hereby given that the
Board of Education of Edray Dis-
trict, Pocahontas county, West Vir-